

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
ENABLING A DEVICE BY PROXIMITY**

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ABSTRACT

A method (200) and an apparatus (600) for a wireless portable communication device (102) for enabling and disabling the wireless portable communication device (102) are provided. The wireless portable communication device (102) monitors for a proximity signal (106) including a first authorization code transmitted from a controller unit (104), and determines whether the first authorization code is valid upon receiving the proximity signal (106). Upon determining the first authorization code is valid, the wireless portable communication device (102) is enabled for normal operation. Otherwise, the wireless portable communication device (102) monitors for a second authorization code, and determines whether the second authorization code is valid upon receipt. Upon determining the second authorization code is valid, the wireless portable communication device (102) is enabled for normal operation. Otherwise, the wireless portable communication device (102) is disabled.